



Mothers Knowledge Regarding Infant Development Milestone

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Abstract: **Background:** A developmental milestone is a collection of practical abilities or a particular task that the majority of kids can perform by a given age. The ability of a kid to do more complicated tasks as they get older is referred to as child development. Growth and development are not the same thing. Growth describes how a kid develops: The age at which a kid that is growing normally hits a milestone might vary significantly, even if each milestone has an age level. Every youngster is different.

Objective:

1. "To assess Mothers knowledge regarding infant development milestone"
2. "To find the relationship between knowing the mother and her demographic information"

Methods: A non-probability non purpose simple random sample of (100) health mothers in the hospital, they were visited to their in hospital, which is the Al-Hindiya General Teaching Hospital . Non experimental study was conducted at Al-Hindiya General Teaching Hospital in Karbala from 2 December 2022, to 24 June 2023, to assess Mothers knowledge regarding infant development milestone and collect data from the study sample for the period from 4 April 2023, to 3 May 2023.

Results: The results also shown the most (51%) were employer, from rural area (58%) and with nearly sufficient monthly income (40%).result showed the level of the mothers knowledge regarding infant development milestone were good with mean 0.75 (Min- Max 0-1) and the high percentage in domain social aspect with mean 0.80 while the less percentage in domain physical aspect with mean 0.69.the result showed the levels of the mothers knowledge regarding infant development milestone at most were good (58%) with mean 14.20 (Min- Max 0- 19).the result showed there was significant statistical differences between mothers' knowledge with educational level at $P < 0.05$. Also

the result showed there were significant statistical correlation between mothers knowledge with their age and number children at $P < 0.01$.

Conclusions

The most knowledgeable and knowledgeable age of an infant's developmental milestones is the age of 25 to 35

Most of the women with knowledge of the milestones of development are married female employees

The study showed that women with knowledge of developmental milestones have a good income

The study showed that the mother is well aware of the child's social features, while the mother, while there is poor knowledge about the physical aspect

The study also showed, in general, that the mother has a good level in the developmental parameters of the children and does not have a low level

And the last thing that the study showed is that there is a close correlation between the mother's knowledge and her age, as well as her level of education.

Recommendations

The knowledge of mothers under 25 years of age should be developed regarding the stages of infant development, as well as strengthening training and explanatory programs for non-employed mothers, as well as free courses and workshops for women in health centers regarding child development, enhancing mothers' information regarding physical development, not just social.

Introduction

A developmental milestone is a collection of practical abilities or a particular task that the majority of kids can perform by a given age. The ability of a kid to do more complicated tasks as they get older is referred to as child development. Growth and development are not the same thing. Growth describes how a kid develops: The age at which a kid that is growing normally hits a milestone might vary significantly, even if each milestone has an age level. Every youngster is different.(Hailay, September 2017).

The role that the house plays in a number of public health and hygiene concerns has come to light throughout the last ten years. Among these concerns, the mother's role in avoiding an infant's development delay is arguably the most well-known. One of the most important topics of the twentieth century is child development. This interest stems, in part, from the fact that child development has an impact on society as a whole. As such, how parents raise their children has come to be regarded as a matter of public policy. The state may fail to address this issue, and today's maladjusted kids might grow up to be the anti-social parts of tomorrow (Casey & etal, 2016)

Children's health is considered as an investment and wealth in society. (Engle et al., 2011) Given the advances in both physical and psychological development, the first five years of intervention are regarded as the "golden period" for health promotion and illness prevention. (Campbell et al., 2014). The World Health Organization states that knowledge on healthy child development is essential for all parents. Mothers' knowledge is also one of the key components in raising children. Effective and successful parent-child interactions can result from parents' mindfulness and knowledge of the processes, milestones, caring abilities, and child development, as well as their expertise with childcare techniques. As the primary caregivers, moms have to have sufficient understanding about an infant's developmental milestones through education and be able to put that knowledge into practice.. (Kumar. D. Aggarwal, 2022)

Because of this, evaluating a child's growth requires collaboration, with the family playing a crucial part. By making observations, mothers are able to determine an infant's milestone growth. A woman can discuss any issues or concerns she may have with the baby's physician. Additionally, developmental screening is a tool that pediatricians may use to detect children who may be at risk for developmental delay. It consists of a series of questions and observations designed to determine the child's capacity to complete specific tasks that are age-appropriate.(Haji & etal, 2016).

Thus, missed milestones may indicate developmental delays, which may be linked to more severe medical issues. Parents should schedule a visit with their usual healthcare provider and inquire about the outcomes of the most recent developmental screening test if they believe their child has missed any developmental milestones. Studies revealed that kids who are identified and treated earlier have better outcomes in development, school performance and social skills (US, 2010.).

It seems that part of being a skilled parent is also being aware of the child's developmental stage. Research indicates that parents who lack awareness of their kids' developmental stages tend to overestimate their child's pace of growth, which can result in unreasonable demands, frustration, and intolerance. Parents could adjust their expectations and supply toys, equipment, and stimulation to match their kid's "readiness" for a certain kind of experience at each stage if they knew where their child is on the developmental trajectory. While moms in particular seemed to know a little more about elements that promote a child's development in the best possible ways, further data indicate that parents' understanding of their children's growth is lacking in many areas. (A. Oyo-Ita & etal, vol. 2016)

Importance of the Study

In the World Health Organization's (WHO) Multicenter Growth Reference Study, which was carried out in the US, Ghana, India, Norway, Oman, and other countries, little variations in the achievement of important motor milestones were discovered. (WHO, 2006)

Therefore, caregivers' perceptions of when infants should acquire developmental abilities appear to vary across cultures, despite consistency in children's achievement of culturally independent developmental milestones. (Iqbal, 2012). The populations of Western nations demonstrated the possibility of significant cultural variations in mothers' understanding of and views about the development of young children. (WHO, 2010 report)(ClarkA, 2009)

Children are said to be developmentally delayed if they failed to reach specific developmental milestones at the expected age(WHO., 2012)

A kid is said to have a developmental delay if one or more of his milestones are not met on time. It is important for moms to identify indications of developmental delays in the children under their supervision. Finding physical symptoms of cognitive delay might be harder than recognizing its signals, particularly when it comes to language and communication impairments.

Stops. Some children are simply quiet, shy, or take longer to make friends. This doesn't always mean that they are running late; they might simply be calm people. or personalityt (Malande & etal, 2019).

Identify factors predicting high immunization dropout rates among children 5 years in the Mont Ngafula II health district (Kayembe - Ntumba & etal, 2022).

Given that mothers are the first to provide a clear and explicit assessment of their child's condition and development, this study was designed to determine whether or not the mothers are aware of developmental milestones and whether or not the child has a delay. his age development (Derso & etal, 2020).

Design of the Study

Study designs were conducted in the form of a descriptive statement sheet during this study to assess Mothers knowledge regarding infant development meliston in the Al-Hindiya General Teaching Hospital in Karbala Governorate, Al-Hindiya District

Setting of the Study

The study was conducted at Al-Hindiya General Teaching Hospital in Karbala Governorate, Al-Hindiya District.

Data collection

Non experimental study was conducted at Al-Hindiya General Teaching Hospital in Karbala from 2 December 2022, to24 June 2023, to assess Mothers knowledge regarding infant development meliston and collect data from the study sample for the period from 27 April 2023, to 3 May 2023,

Sample of the Study

A non-probability non purpose simple random sample of (100) health mothers in the hospital, they were visited to their in hospital, which is the Al-Hindiya General Teaching Hospital.

Statistical method:

Descriptive statistics were used in the study (mean, standard deviation, poor).

M=mean, SD= standard deviation,

Eva./ P=poor (0-0.33), M=moderate (0.34-0.66) and

G=good (0.67-1)

The Results

Demographics characteristic for the participants

Demographic characteristic	Subgroup	F	%
Age	Less than 25 years	22	22.0
	25-35 years	61	61.0
	36-45 years	12	12.0
	Above 45 years	5	5.0
	Total	100	100.0
		Mean \pm SD 29.74 \pm 7.333 Min- Max 17- 50 years	
Child number	1- 3	70	70.0
	4- 7	29	29.0
	More than 7	1	1.0
	Total	100	100.0
		Mean \pm SD 2.89 \pm 1.711 Min- Max 1- 9	

Occupation	Housewife	49	49.0
	Employer	51	51.0
	Total	100	100.0
Level of education	Read And Write	11	11.0
	Primary	17	17.0
	Intermediary	16	16.0
	Secondary	30	30.0
	College Or High	26	26.0
	Total	40	100.0
Residency	Rural	58	58.0
	City	42	42.0
	Total	100	100.0
Income	Not Sufficient	18	18.0
	Nearly Sufficient	40	40.0
	Sufficient	42	42.0
	Total	100	100.0

In table 1 the results showed for 100 participants with age at most (61%) from 25 to 35 years with mean 29.74 years. According to the child number at most (70%) from 1 to 3 child with mean 2.89. Regarding the level of education the most (30%) participants completed secondary school. The results also shown the most (51%) were employer, from rural area (58%) and with nearly sufficient monthly income (40%).

Assess of the mothers knowledge regarding infant development milestone

	Items	M	S.D	Eva.
Social aspect	1 The child uses crying to get attention	.95	.219	G
	2- The child smiles in response to the smile of others	.91	.288	G
	3- The child begins to be afraid and surprised by people at the age of 6 months	.66	.476	M
	4- The child behaves differently with strangers than he behaves with his family at the age of 8 months	.78	.416	G
	5- The child begins to choose favorite toys and favorite people at the age of 12 months	.71	.456	G
	Domain 1	.80	.200	G
Physical aspect	1 The child begins to lie on his stomach at the age of 4 months	.72	.451	G
	2- The child begins to sit with the forearm at the age of 4 months	.67	.473	G
	3- The child rolls from front to back and in the opposite direction at the age of 4 months	.49	.502	M
	4- The child begins to sit without assistance at the age of 8 months	.78	.416	G
	5- The baby starts crawling at the age of 7 months	.81	.394	G
	Domain 2	.69	.291	G
Cognitive aspect	1 The child begins to babble at the age of 5 months	.70	.461	G
	2- The child puts objects in his mouth to identify them	.81	.394	G
	3- The child responds to his name at the age of 8 months	.74	.441	G
	4- The child begins to explore things by shaking, hitting and throwing at the age of 10 months	.70	.461	G

	5- The child begins to respond to simple and understandable requests at the age of 12 months	.81	.394	G
	Domain 3	.75	.256	G
Psychological aspect	1 Breastfeeding is an effective way to develop the child's relationship with his mother	.99	.100	G
	2- The child cries when he feels hungry	.98	.141	G
	3- The child will be ready for potty training at the age of 12 months	.44	.499	M
	4- The child begins to try to rely on himself to eat at the age of 12 months	.55	.500	M
	Domain 4	.74	.204	G
Overall knowledge		.75	.171	G

In table 2 the result showed the level of the mothers knowledge regarding infant development milestone were good with mean 0.75 (Min-

Max 0-1) and the high percentage in domain social aspect with mean 0.80 while the less percentage in domain physical aspect with mean 0.69.

The levels of the mothers knowledge regarding infant development milestone

	Range	F	%	Mean	SD
Poor	0-6	2	2.0		
Moderate	7-13	40	40.0		
Good	14-19	58	58.0		
Total 0-19		100	100.0	14.20	3.306

In table 3 the result showed the levels of the mothers knowledge regarding infant development milestone at most were good (58%) with mean 14.20 (Min- Max 0- 19).

The relationship between the mothers knowledge regarding infant development milestone with their socio demographic characteristics:

Demographic characteristic	Subgroup	Mean	SD	Analysis	P. value
Age	Less than 25 years	.66	.209	Cc=.283**	.004
	25-35 years	.75	.156		
	36-45 years	.84	.113		
	Above 45 years	.87	.097		
Child number	1- 3	.72	.177	Cc=.286**	.004
	4- 7	.81	.145		
	More than 7	.79	.		
Occupation	Housewife	.78	.162	F=1.677	.097
	Employer	.72	.176		
Level of education	Read And Write	.70	.209	F= 3.390	.012
	Primary	.82	.151		
	Intermediary	.84	.120		
	Secondary	.71	.169		
	College Or High	.71	.166		
Residency	Rural	.73	.176	F= -1.369-	.174
	City	.77	.163		
Income	Not Sufficient	.74	.221	F= .007	.993
	Nearly Sufficient	.75	.158		
	Sufficient	.75	.163		

In table 4 the result showed there was significant statistical differences between mothers' knowledge with educational level at $P < 0.05$. Also the result showed there were significant statistical correlation between mothers knowledge with their age and number children at $P < 0.01$.

Discussion of the result

Dissuasion of demographic characteristic

In table 1 the results showed for 100 participants with age at most (61%) from 25 to 35 years with mean 29.74 years. According to the child number at most (70%) from 1 to 3 child with mean 2.89. Regarding the level of education the most (30%) participants completed secondary school. The results also shown the most (51%) were employer, from rural area (58%) and with nearly sufficient monthly income (40%).this study is agree with th study of (Mebrat, A., Dube,2022) Whereas, his study found that women who are within the stage of full youth are more aware of the developmental stages of children by virtue of the development that accompanies such ages, as well as the ability of mothers of these ages to learn and know more than others.

In addition to the fact that female employees interact more with society and what is going on in it, it is possible that they are more cultured and knowledgeable about the developmental milestones of the child.

In addition, the more the educational level is of a scientific level, the better and more familiar with the child's development milestones

Discussion Assess of the mothers knowledge regarding infant development milestone

In table 2 the result showed the level of the mothers knowledge regarding infant development milestone were good with mean 0.75 (Min- Max 0-1) and the high percentage in domain social aspect with mean 0.80 while the less percentage in domain physical aspect with mean 0.69. (T Maki & etal, 2017) This result is consistent with a study conducted before, where it was found that most women are more familiar with the social teacher than other developmental parameters, since the child's social development is instinctive with the family, so women must be aware of the developmental parameters

Discussion The levels of the mothers knowledge regarding infant development milestone

In table 3 the result showed the levels of the mothers knowledge regarding infant development milestone at most were good (58%) with mean 14.20 (Min- Max 0- 19). (Al-Kazrajy & etal, 2018)

This study shows that most women, in general, are highly and well aware of the milestones of development, especially with infants, because of what they see and what they learn, in addition to the presence of the innate condition of the mother, which enables her to know the milestones of infant development.

Discussion The relationship between the mothers knowledge regarding infant development milestone with their socio demographic characteristics:

In table 4 the result showed there was significant statistical differences between mothers' knowledge with educational level at $P < 0.05$. Also the result showed there were significant statistical correlation between mothers knowledge with their age and number children at $P < 0.01$.

This result is consistent with the study he conducted (Powelson, J., Magadzire,2019), where he found that there is a relationship between the mother's knowledge and inspiration of the milestones of development with her educational level and her age.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Conclusions

1. The most knowledgeable age of an infant's developmental milestones is the age of 25 to 35
2. Most of the women with knowledge of the milestones of development are married female employees
3. The study showed that women with knowledge of developmental milestones have a good income
4. The study showed that the mother is well aware of the child's social features, while the mother, while there is poor knowledge about the physical aspect
5. The study also showed, in general, that the mother has a good level in the developmental parameters of the children and does not have a low level
6. And the last thing that the study showed is that there is a close correlation between the mother's knowledge and her age, as well as her level of education.

Recommendations

1. Do not allow discharge from the hospital if the child is not outgrown as it should
2. Explain to the mother that exclusive breastfeeding is the only feeding that protects
3. separate them. Support exclusive breastfeeding as needed, day and night
4. Make sure to continue direct contact between the mother and her infant for as long as possible.

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